THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) The work plan includes joint research, training, workshops, visits relating to four priority areas of focusing on (a) education, learning resources, curriculum development and training and building human and institutional capacity (cross cutting), (b) training, capacity building and joint research on food processing, by product utilization and bio-fuels, (c) biotechnology covering development of transgenic crops resistant to important viruses, tolerance to drought, heat and salinity, molecular breeding and genomics in crops and animals, molecular approaches in plants and animal health protection and (d) water management, research and training.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) The main benefits of partnership include building human and institutional capacity for enhancing research capabilities in niche/cutting edge areas for developing technologies relevant to national, regional and global needs.

Decrease in milch cattle

† 1192. SHRIMATI MAYA SINGH: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the number of milching animals is decreasing swiftly in the country;

(b) if so, the main reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government have made any review of losses caused to economy due to reduction in livestock;

(d) whether the livestock is being stealthily exported from the country to Bangladesh, etc.; and

(e) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI TASLIMUDDIN): (a) and (b) No, Sir. The number of milching animals is increasing over the years. The population of milch animals (which

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

includes milch cattle and buffaloes) available from Livestock Census is given below:

Year	Number of milch animals ('000)
1992	98068
1997	100962
2003	105311

(c) to (e) No, Sir.

Research activities on agricultural production

1193. SHRI N.R. GOVINDARAJAR: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether I CAR has carried out agricultural research activities in various States with a view to increase agricultural production;

(b) if so, the research activities undertaken in various parts of the country particularly in Tamil Nadu during the last three years;

(c) the recommendations of ICAR for increasing agricultural production in Taml Nadu; and

(d) the follow-up action initiated by Government thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTILAL BHURIA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The ICAR has carried out research activities to increase agricultural production in various states including Tamil Nadu through improvement of crop, animal and fish genetic resources, natural resource management, disease diagnostics and management in crops, livestock and fisheries, development and utilization of improved farm machinery, post harvest technology and human resource development. These activities are undertaken at various ICAR research institutes and their centers and the state agricultural universities as ongoing programmes and *ad-hoc* projects of national and regional priorities. For research extension, there are 537 Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVKs) in the country out of which 28 are in Tamil Nadu, one in each district. During the last three years in India, these KVKs have taken up 2258 technologies for on-farm trial to identify the location specificity of technology under various farming systems; organized 89,601 frontline demonstrations to establish their production potential on the farmers fields; conducted Training programmes with the